



● Working together – left, carers and youth campers from Mersea try their hand at crabbing on Brightlingsea waterfront. Below, Zara Coulson keeps her crab at arm's length. She's not sure she likes what she's found!

Pictures: LOUISE MORRIS (58059-1 and 2)

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Crabbing fun on special outing

BACON bait and buckets helped lure crafty crustaceans from their watery home.

A group of people taking part in the Mersea Festival visited Brightlingsea's scenic waterfront to enjoy a few hours of the traditional pastime of crabbing.

And their patience and skill was rewarded with buckets full to the brim of crabs – all of which were

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returned to their watery homes at the end of the session.

The Mersea Festival is being staged at Mersea Outdoor and activities for the disabled and able-bodied participants have included archery, a zip wire, climbing, circus skills and trampolining.

About 360 youngsters,

aged from eight upwards, are taking part in the five-day festival helped by a team of more than 70 volunteers.

A smaller festival for about 200 people is being held over the Bank Holiday weekend.

Eleanor Lumber, one of the outdoor instructors from Mersea Outdoor at the crabbing event, said: "It has been brilliant."

"They have all caught some crabs and they have just loved it."

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● Got one – David Jarvis catches a crab on the trip from Mersea island youth camp. (58059-3)